issue of human embryo cloning lightly, nor can we treat it without serious debate and deliberation.

The need for action is clear. A cult has publicly announced its intention to begin human cloning for profit. Research firms have announced their intentions to clone embryos for research purposes and then discard what is not needed. Whatever your beliefs, pro-life, pro-choice, Democrat or Republican, the fact is embryos are the building blocks of human life and human life itself. We must ask ourselves, what will our message be here today? What makes us up as human beings? What is the human spirit? What moves us? What separates us from animals?

That is what we are debating here today.

What message will the United States send? Will it be a cynical signal that human embryo cloning and destruction is okay, acceptable, even to be encouraged, all in the name of science? Or will it be a message urging caution and care? If we allow this research to go forward unchecked, what will be next? Allowing parents to choose the color of the eyes or the hair of their children, or create super babies? We need to consider all aspects of cloning and not just what the researchers tell us is good.

Opposition to the Weldon-Stupak bill has based its objections on arguments that we will stifle research, discourage free thinking, put science back in the Dark Ages. How ridiculous. The Weldon-Stupak bill does nothing of the sort. It allows animal cloning; it allows tissue cloning; it allows current stem cell research being done on existing embryos; it allows DNA cloning. All of this is not seen as stifling research. The fact is, there is no research being done on cloned human embryos, so how can we stifle it?

Mr. Speaker, do we know why there is no research being done? Because scientists, the same ones who are banging on our doors to allow this experiment with human embryos, do not know how to. They have experimented for years with cloned animal embryos with very limited success. These scientists, who were pushing so hard to be allowed a free pass for research on what constitutes the very essence of what it is to be a human, do not know what goes wrong with cloned animal embryos. The horror stories are too many to mention here of deformed mice and deformed sheep developing from cloned embryos.

A prominent researcher working for a bioresearch company has admitted scientists do not know how or what happens in cloned embryos allowing these deformed embryos. In fact, he calls the procedure when an egg reprograms DNA ''magic.'' Magic? That is hardly a comforting or a hard-hitting scientific term, but it is accurate. It is magic.

Opponents of our bill have said embryonic research is the Holy Grail of science and holds the key to untold medical wonders. I say to these opponents, show me your miracles. Show me the wondrous advances done on animal embryonic cloning. But these opponents cannot show me these advances because they do not exist.

Our ability to delve into the mysteries of life grows exponentially. All fields of science fuse to enhance our ability to go where we have never gone before.

The question is this: Simply because we can do something, does that mean we should do it? What is the better path to take? One of haste and a rush into the benefits that are, at best, years in the future, entrusting cloned human embryos to scientists who do not know what they are doing with cloned animal embryos; or one urging caution, urging a step back, urging deliberation?

The human race is not open for experimentation at any level, even at the molecular level. Has not the 20th century history shown us the folly of this belief?

The Holy Grail? The magic? How about the human soul? Scientists and medical researchers cannot find it, they cannot medically explain it, but writers write about it; songwriters sing about it; we believe in it. From the depths of our souls, we know we should ban human cloning.

For the sake of our soul, reject the substitute and support the Weldon-Stupak bill.

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. WAXMAN).

(Mr. WAXMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Greenwood substitute and in opposition to H.R. 2505.

This debate involves research that holds a great deal of promise for defeating disease and repairing damaged organs. It also involves a great deal of confusion.

In order to tilt the debate about genetic cell replication research, some opponents lump it with Dolly the sheep. No one supports reproductive cloning and no one benefits from such confusion, except those who hope to spur an overreaction. The Greenwood substitute would prohibit reproductive cloning without shutting down valuable research.

Some argue to prohibit genetic cell replication research because it might, in the wrong hands, be turned into reproductive cloning research. I cannot support this argument. All research can be misused. That is why we regulate research, investigate abuse of subjects, and prosecute scientific fraud and misconduct. If researchers give drug overdoses in clinical trials, the law requires that they be disbarred and punished. If someone were to traffic in organs, the law requires they be prosecuted, and if someone were to develop reproductive cloning under the Greenwood substitute, they would be prosecuted for a felony. The Greenwood ban on reproductive cloning will be every bit as effective as the Weldon ban on all research. If someone is deterred by one felony penalty, they will be deterred by the other.

Finally, let me point out that the Greenwood substitute cleans up two major drafting mistakes in the Weldon bill, mistakes that, in and of themselves, should be enough to make Members oppose the Weldon bill.

First, as the dissenting views in the committee report note, this bill criminalizes some forms of infertility treatments. These are not the science fiction clones that people have been talking about today; this is a woman and a man who want to have a child using her egg and his sperm and some other genetic materials to make up for flaws in one or the other; and this bill would make this couple and their doctors felons. That is wrong. They do not want Dolly the sheep, they want a child of their own.

Second, the Weldon bill makes criminal all products that are derived from this research. This means that if an advance in research leads to a new protein or enzyme or chemical, that protein or enzyme or chemical cannot be brought into this country, even if it requires no creation of new fertilized eggs and is the cure for dreaded diseases. That is wrong. It is an overreaction and does not serve any useful end.

I urge my colleagues to support the Greenwood amendment. We should clearly define what is wrongdoing, prohibit it, and enforce that prohibition, but we should not shut down beneficial work, clinical trials, organ transplants, or genetic cell replication because of a risk of wrongdoing; and we should not ban some things by the accident of bad drafting.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Greenwood substitute and in opposition to H.R. 2505. This debate involves research that holds a great deal of promise for defeating disease and repairing damaged organs. It also involves a great deal of confusion.

Let me try to clear up that confusion by clarifying what we mean by ''cloning research,'' because the term means different things to different people. Some ''cloning'' research involves, for example, using genetic material to generate one adult skin cell from another adult skin cell. I know of no serious opposition to such research.

Some ''cloning'' research starts with a human egg cell, inserts a donor's complete genetic material into its core, and allows this cell to multiply to produce new cells, genetically identical to the donor's cells. This is genetic cell replication. These cells can, in theory, be transplanted to be used for organ repair or tissue regeneration—without risk of allergic reaction or rejection. H.R. 2505 would ban that—for no good reason.

Some ''cloning'' research is for reproduction. It starts with the human egg and donated genetic material, but it is intended to go further, in an effort to create what is essentially a human version of Dolly the sheep, a full-scale